

HUMAN SERVICES COORDINATING BODY OF EMMET AND CHARLEVOIX COUNTIES

PARTICIPATING AGENCIES

BASES

Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Northwest Michigan
Charlevoix-Emmet Department of Human Services
Char-Em Intermediate School District
Child and Family Services of Northwestern Michigan
Disability Network of N. MI
Friendship Centers of Emmet County Harbor Hall, Inc.
Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians
Lutheran Child and Family Service
MSU Extension (Emmet & Charlevoix County)
North Central Michigan College
North Country Community Mental Health Services
Northern Community Mediation
Northern Michigan Regional Health System
Northwest Michigan 4C Council
Northwest Michigan Community Health Agency
Northwest Michigan Human Services Agency
Northwest Michigan Works! Agency
Planned Parenthood Northern Michigan
Probate Court - Emmet-Charlevoix
Prosecuting Attorney - Charlevoix
Prosecuting Attorney - Emmet
Women's Resource Center of Northern Michigan, Inc.

AFFILIATED ORGANIZATIONS

Charlevoix County Community Foundation
Northern Michigan Substance Abuse Services
Petoskey - Harbor Springs Area Community Foundation
United Way of Char-Em

August 24, 2007

Ms. Mary Levine, Director of Legal Affairs
Michigan State Housing Development Authority
735 East Michigan Avenue
Lansing, MI 48909

Re: Michigan's Qualified Allocation Plan

Dear Ms. Levine:

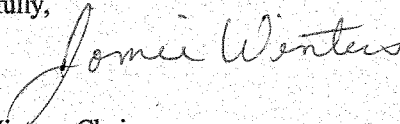
The Charlevoix Emmet Continuum of Care (CoC), a workgroup of the Human Services Coordinating Body (HSCB), supports all changes to Michigan's Qualified Allocation Plan (QAP) that will increase the number of housing units made available to persons who are homeless and/or special needs individuals/families.

The Low Income Housing Tax Credit Program is one of the largest resources made available to Michigan to create new or rehabilitated affordable units for low income people, and as you may be aware, Michigan's economic climate has increased the homeless population across the state. This is seen locally through an increase in requests for assistance to remain in housing; foreclosure assistance requests were reportedly ten calls per week at one agency this past spring. It is also felt locally by food pantries which compared to last year have served an additional 88,319 meals *so far* this year. These are families trying to make ends meet and remain in their homes. Many are failing to be able to do so. On any given night, Michigan has a homeless population that exceeds 80,000 people, and it is imperative that tax credit dollars are dedicated to the creation of units that will assist this population and/or those with special needs.

For the State of Michigan to receive approximately \$200,000,000 annually from the federal government and not to set aside a large percentage of these funds to help the homeless and/or those with special needs is to disregard the poorest members of our society.

Thank you for the opportunity to express my concerns. If you have any questions, please phone me at 231-347-1572.

Respectfully,



Jamie Winters, Chairperson
Charlevoix-Emmet Continuum of Care

RECEIVED

AUG 28 2007

MSHDA-Legal

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(231) 347-7890**